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ABSTRACT

In a continuing effort to measure the quality of their Dental Hygiene program, explore the need for changes, and substantiate the program's goals for accreditation standards, a follow-up study was conducted of the 1990 Dental Hygiene program graduates from William Rainey Harper (WRHC) College in Palatine, Illinois. A survey was mailed to all 30 associate degree graduates, requesting information on their current employment and/or enrollment in school, employment search experience, salary/benefits, job satisfaction, job tasks, the quality of their WRHC preparation for those tasks, and suggestions for improving the WRHC program. Study findings, based on a 93% response rate, included the following: (1) all of the 28 respondents were employed in the dental hygiene field, with 21 working full-time; (2) 38% of the respondents were working in a job setting with only 1 practitioner, 55% with more than 1 practitioner, and 2 graduates were working in clinic settings; (3) respondents' search for employment typically involved 3 interviews, with 21% using the local newspaper and 54% using a personal contact; (4) 68% of the graduates were paid on an hourly basis, with a median wage of $17.50 per hour, or approximately $36,400 per year, up 7.5% from 1989 graduates; (5) 68% of the respondents were very satisfied with their chosen profession; (6) respondents reported being underprepared to perform 6 of the 41 skills for which they were trained; (7) 6 respondents indicated that they needed more periodontal experience; and (8) while only 4 graduates were currently working toward an advanced degree, two-thirds intended to do so. Detailed data tables and the survey instrument are included. (PAA)

Office of Planning and Research

William Rainey Harper College

FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF 1990 DENTAL HYGIENE GRADUATES

Volume XX, No. 1
September 8, 1991

Marianne Holt, Coordinator
Dental Hygiene Program

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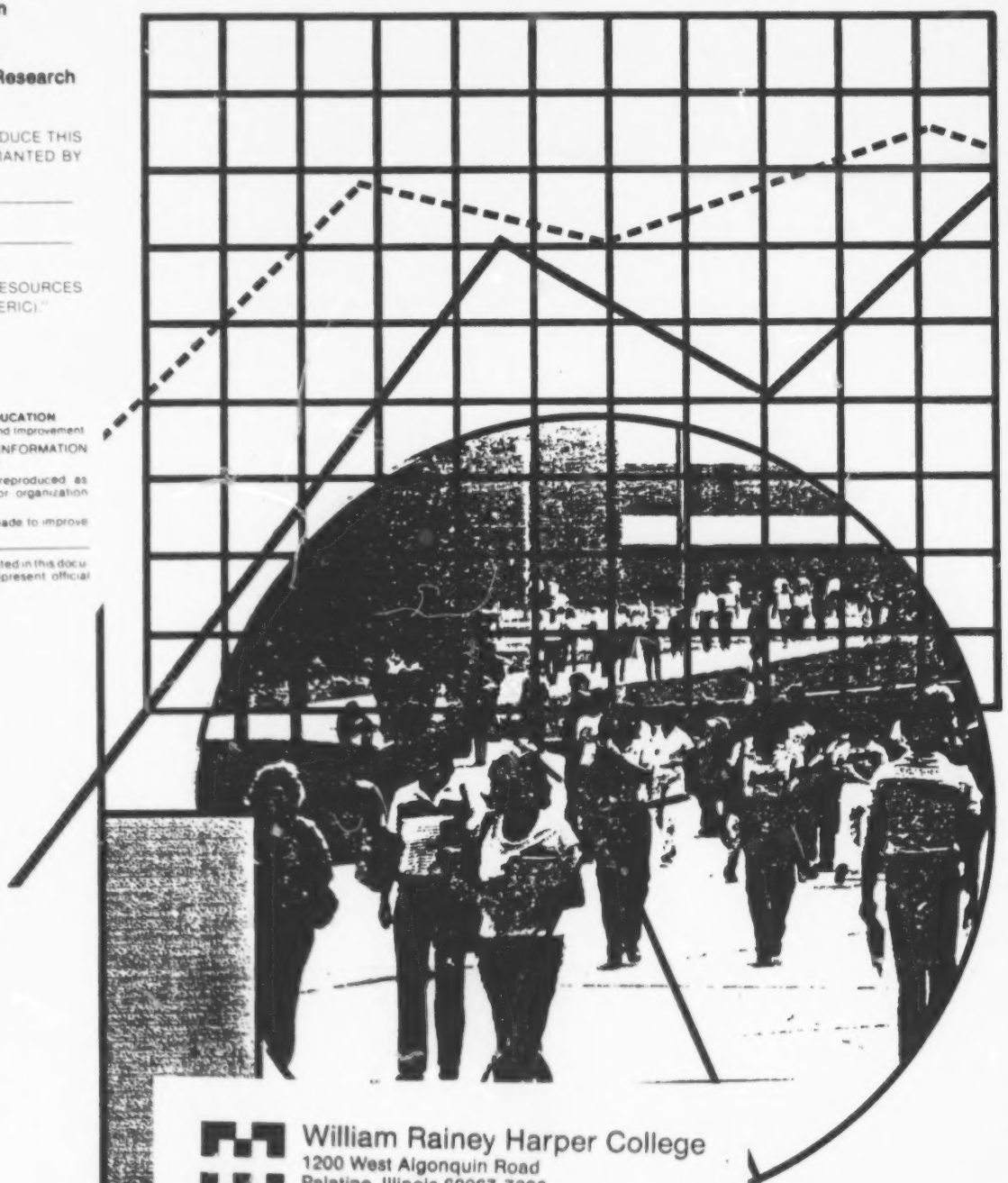

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Purpose

The purpose of this study was to follow up the 1990 Dental Hygiene graduates as one indicator of the quality of the program, the need for appropriate changes and in order to substantiate the program's goals for accreditation standards. The study was requested by the Coordinator of the Dental Hygiene Program.

Population Surveyed and Methodology

The survey instrument shown in the appendix was designed by the Coordinator of the Dental Hygiene Program with input from the Office of Planning and Research. This survey was mailed to all 30 1990 Dental Hygiene associate degree graduates. After four weeks those not responding were mailed a second copy of the survey. One month later, those still not responding were called and surveyed over the telephone. With this follow-up effort, 28 completed surveys were obtained for a 93 percent response rate. Results were compared with a similar 1989 survey.

Discussion of the Results

Among the 28 respondents, all are employed, at least part time, in the dental field. Sixteen are employed full time in one situation while 5 more are employed full time with 2 part-time jobs. Another 6 are employed part-time as dental hygienists by choice, one is employed part time as a dental hygienist but would prefer a full-time position, while another is working as a dental receptionist awaiting licensure. In addition, only one is employed in a geographic location she does not prefer. Thus the employment situation for Harper graduates is excellent.

In examining their employment situations, 38 percent are in a setting with only one practitioner while 55 percent are with more than one practitioner. For the first time in three years, two are in clinic situations. Most (82%) are employed in general practice. The most common situation in their search for employment was to go through three job interviews. There were various avenues used in searching for employment but the most frequent means (54%) was through personal contact. Another 21 percent got their job through the local newspaper and 66 percent of the graduates reported their job is in the northwest suburbs.

About 68 percent are paid on an hourly salary basis, while others receive commissions or bonuses or salary on another type of basis. The median hourly salary is about $17.50 per hour and the median daily salary is about $140. This latter figure is equivalent to an annual salary of just over $36,400 - up about 7.5 percent over the 1989 dental hygiene graduates. This is higher than the average nursing graduate salary ($24,500) or the average career graduate ($24,000). Among 1990 graduates a higher percentage received benefits than previous classes. For example, a higher percentage in 1990 received Continuing Education coverage, major medical, uniform allowance, paid sick days, a pension plan, life insurance and disability insurance than did previous classes. Paid vacation and profit sharing were the only two benefits in which a lower percentage of the 1990 class received compared to other classes.

Among those employed in dental hygiene, 68 percent are very satisfied with their chosen profession while all are at least satisfied with their chosen profession.

These graduates were also asked how frequently they perform certain dental hygiene skills and how well they were prepared to perform these skills. There were 41 skill areas that were rated by both the 1989 and the 1990 graduates. The frequency these

Discussion of the Results (continued)

skills were practiced was a little greater for the 1990 group but previous groups reported they were equally prepared for these skills. There were a number of skills practiced more frequently by the 1990 class. They were instrument-langers, subgingival irrigation, indices-bleeding, indices-plaque, radiographs-panorex, selective polishings and blood pressure/pulse screening. Two skills were practiced frequently by the 1990 graduating class. They were radiology safety procedure-monitor badge and perio pack removal. There were a number of skills in which the 1990 class felt less prepared than the previous two classes. They were ultrasonic scaling, detition charting, sealants, instrument files, suture removal, and perio pack removal. There were two skills in which the 1990 class felt more well prepared. They were nutrition counseling and radiographs-panorex. Two additional skills were mentioned in free response by three or more of the 1990 class. They were sickles (used often and students felt well prepared for) and radiographs-CEPH (used often but inadequately prepared for).

As for continuing their education, four 1990 graduates are working toward advanced degrees (special ed, teaching science, BS in Dental Hygiene). However, two thirds of the 1990 graduates anticipate eventually working toward an advanced degree. Almost all (89%) of the graduates have maintained membership in the IDHA/ADHA and 56 percent participated in formalized continuing education presentations. When asked how satisfied they were with their professional education, all said they were satisfied or very satisfied. Almost all commented that the dental hygiene program was excellent and prepared them well for their job. Six mentioned they needed more perio experiences and education while nine others mentioned other areas which should be more fully covered.

Major Conclusions

All the 1990 Dental Hygiene graduates were employed in their field and almost all in situations they prefer. They are generally very satisfied with their career choice and with their education at Harper. Salaries are very good at around $36,400 which is up 5 percent from the previous year and considerably higher than what other Harper career graduates earn. In addition, benefits have increased. Graduates once again report they are well prepared in the skill areas they perform most often.the

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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Situation	1989 N	1989 PCT	1990 N	1990 PCT
Employed full time as dental hygienist	16	64.0	16	57.1
Employed in two part-time jobs as a dental hygienist equaling full-time employment in hours worked	3	12.0	5	17.9
Employed as a part-time dental hygienist by choice	5	20.0	5	17.8
Employed as a part-time dental hygienist but prefer full time	1	4.0	.5	1.8
Employed outside the dental hygiene field by choice	0	0	0	0
Employed outside dental hygiene field but would prefer working as a dental hygienist	0	0	.5	1.8
Employed in dental field but not as a hygienist	0	0	1.0	3.6
Total	25	100.0	28	100.0

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Practice Setting

Solo practitioner	11.5	46.0	10.5	37.5
More than one practitioner	13.5	54.0	15.5	55.4
Clinic Type	0	0	2.0	7.1
Total	25	100.0	28	100.0

Type of Practice

Prosthodontics	0	0	1.5	5.3
General Practice	19.0	79.2	23.09	82.4
Perio	4.5	18.7	1.58	5.7
Oral Surgery	0	0	.25	.9
Pedo	.5	2.1	1.58	5.7
Total	24	100.0	28	100.0

Number of Jobs Interviewed for in Employment Search

One	7	30.4	8	32
Two	7	30.4	1.5	6
Three	2	8.7	7.5	30
Four	4.5	19.6	5	20
Five	2	8.7	1.5	6
Six	.5	2.2	.5	2
Seven	0	0	0	0
Eight	0	0	1	4
Total	23	100.0	25	100.0
Median Number of Interviews	2		3	
Mean Number of Interviews	2.5		2.9	

How Salary is Determined	1989 N	1989 PCT of 25 Respondents	1990 N	1990 PCT of 28 Respondents
Hourly salary	20	80	19	67.9
Commission	1	4	1	3.6
Salary and commission	2	8	2	7.1
Bonus and one of the aforementioned	1	4	3	10.7
Independent contracting	1	4	1	3.6
Annually	0	0	0	0
Weekly Salary	2	8	0	0
Commission only on certain tasks	1	4	0	0
Daily	2	8	4	14.3
Bimonthly	1	4	0	0
Monthly	0	0	1	3.6

Average Daily Salary

1989 Amount	N	PCT
$120	4	19.0
$128	5	23.8
$130	2	9.5
$136	3	14.3
$138	1	4.8
$140	3	14.3
$140.25	1	4.8
$144	2	9.5
Total	21	100.0

Median Daily Salary - $130
Equivalent to an annual salary of $33,800

1990 Amount	N	PCT
$112	1	4.0
$120	1	4.0
$124	1	4.0
$125	1	4.0
$128	2	8.0
$132	1	4.0
$136	5	20.0
$140	2	8.0
$144	5	20.0
$145	3	12.0
$160	2	8.0
$205	1	4.0
Total	25	100.0

Median Daily Salary - $140
Equivalent to an annual salary of $36,400

Hourly Salary

1989 Amount	N	PCT
$15.00	6	25.0
$16.00	5	20.8
$16.50	1	4.2
$17.00	4	16.7
$17.25	2	8.3
$17.50	3	12.5
$18.00	3	12.5
Total	24	100.0

Median Daily Salary - $16.75
Equivalent to an annual salary of $34,840

1990 Amount	N	PCT
$15.00	1	4.0
$15.50	2	8.0
$16.00	2	8.0
$16.50	1	4.0
$17.00	6	24.0
$17.50	1	4.0
$18.00	9	36.0
$20.00	3	12.0
Total	25	100.0

Median Daily Salary - $17.50
Equivalent to an annual salary of $36,400

Work Week - Hours Per Week

1989			1990		
Hours	N	PCT	Hours	N	PCT
8	2	8.0	15	1	3.6
9	1	4.0	23	1	3.6
20	1	4.0	24	2	7.1
24	1	4.0	32	2	7.1
30	1	4.0	32.5	1	3.6
32	1	4.0	34	2	7.1
34	2	8.0	35	1	3.6
35	6	24.0	35.5	1	3.6
36	2	8.0	36	3	10.7
37.5	1	4.0	37	2	7.1
38	2	8.0	37.5	3	10.7
40	3	12.0	38	1	3.6
42	1	4.0	40	7	25.0
45	1	4.0	45	1	3.6
Total	25	100.0	Total	28	100.0

Median Hours Per Week - 35.0 36.25

	1989		1990	
	N	PCT	N	PCT
Number of Offices				
One	18	75.0	14	63.6
Two	5	20.8	7	31.8
Three	1	4.2	1	4.6
Total	24	100.0	22	100.0

	1989		1990	
Type of Geographic Area in Which Employed	N	PCT	N	PCT
Urban	1	4.0	.5	1.8
Suburban	21	84.0	27.0	96.4
Rural	3	12.0	.5	1.8
Total	25	100.0	28	100.0

	1989		1990	
Location of Employment	N	PCT	N	PCT
North Suburbs	3	12.0	3.5	12.5
Northwest Suburbs	17	68.0	18.5	66.0
Southwest Suburbs	0	0	2.5	8.9
Chicago	3	12.0	.5	1.8
Illinois Outside Chicago	1	4.0	1	3.6
Colorado	0	0	1	3.6
Tennessee	0	0	1	3.6
Milwaukee, Wisconsin	1	4.0	0	0
Total	25	100.0	28	100.0

Preference of Employment Location	1989 N	1989 PCT	1990 N	1990 PCT
Location was preferred choice	21	84.0	27	96.4
Location was not preferred choice	4	16.0	1	3.6
Total	25	100.0	28	100.0

Avenues Used to Find Employment Situation	1989 N	1989 PCT of 20	1990 N	1990 PCT of 25
Dentist called student	2	8.0	2	7.1
Personal contact	17	68.0	15	53.6
Local newspaper	8	32.0	6	21.4
Harper Dental Hygiene Office Bulletin Board	1	4.0	2	7.1
ADHA Placement	1	4.0	3	10.7
Major city newspaper	1	4.0	3	10.7
Private placement agency	0	0	4	14.3
Friend	1	4.0	0	0
Present or past employer	2	8.0	3	10.7
Telephone book	1	4.0	0	0

Difficulty in finding employment: 1989 - 1 - all jobs filled in 5-10 mile radius
1990 - 1 - difficulty finding F/T job close to home.
1 - difficulty finding office which student would find comfortable and enjoyable

Goal During Employment Search	1989 N	1989 PCT	1990 N	1990 PCT
Full-time work in one office (more than 30 hours/week)	16.5	66.0	21	77.8
Part-time work in more than one office to equal full time	2.5	10.0	2	7.4
Part-time employment (less than 30 hours/week	6.0	24.0	4	14.8
Total	25.0	100.0	27.0	100.0

Satisfaction with Chosen Profession	Index	1989 N	1989 PCT	1990 N	1990 PCT
Very Satisfied	+2	18	72.0	19	67.9
Satisfied	+1	6	24.0	9	32.1
It is OK	0	1	4.0	0	0
Dissatisfied	-1	0	0	0	0
Total		25	100.0	28	100.0
Average Satisfaction Index		+1.68		+1.68	

Benefits Included in Work Situation	1989 N	1989 PCT of 19	1990 N	1990 PCT of 25
Reduced fee for dental work	17	68.0	23	85.2
Christmas bonus	14	56.0	20	74.1
Paid holidays - median 6.8 days	16	64.0	20	74.1
Paid vacation - Median one week 1st year - two weeks 2nd year	20	80.0	18	66.7
Continuing education courses paid	10	40.0	18	66.7
Major medical	10	40.0	16	59.3
Uniform allowance	9	36.0	15	55.6
Paid sick days - median 3 days	10	40.0	13	48.1
Bonus for production increase	8	32.0	10	37.0
Malpractice insurance	6	24.0	9	33.3
Life insurance	4	16.0	8	29.6
Pension plan	5	20.0	6	22.2
Profit sharing	6	24.0	4	14.8
Disability insurance	3	12.0	4	14.8
Paid dues for association	0	0	2	7.4
Liability insurance	2	8.0	1	3.7
No benefits	1	4.0	1	3.7
Well Pay (2)	0	0	1	3.7

Advanced Education/Professional Development

Working Toward An Advanced Degree - 1989		N	PCT
Yes - Sign Language and Spanish - Marquette Biology - Barat College BS in Dental Hygiene - Northwestern		3	12.5
No		21	87.5

Working Toward An Advanced Degree - 1990		N	PCT
Yes - Special Education - University of Colorado B.S. Degree - NIU Bachelor of Dental Hygiene Teaching Degree - NIU		4	15.4
No		22	84.6

Anticipate Eventually Working Toward Advanced Degree - 1989		N	PCT
Yes - Undecided - 4	Community Health	12	52.0
Business - 2	B.S. Degree/Dental Hygiene		
Education	Masters/Health Care		
Child Psychology	Marketing Dental Products		
No		11	48.0

Anticipate Eventually Working Toward Advanced Degree - 1990		N	PCT
Yes - Undecided - 9	Medical	16	66.7
MYO Functional Therapy	Dental Hygiene		
Science - 3	Health Management and Education		
No		8	33.3

Professional Development	1989 N	1989 PCT of 24	1990 N	1990 PCT of 27
Maintained membership in IDHA/ADHA	21	87.5	24	88.9
Participated in formalized continuing education presentations	15	62.5	15	55.6
Volunteered for community projects or activities	8	33.3	10	37.0
Attend local IDHA component meetings	8	33.3	7	25.9

Satisfaction with Professional Education at Harper College	Index	1989 N	1989 PCT	1990 N	1990 PCT
Very Satisfied	+2	19	72.0	21	77.8
Satisfied	+1	6	38.0	6	22.2
Somewhat Satisfied	0	0	0	0	0
Dissatisfied	-1	0	0	0	0
Total		25	100.0	27	100.0
Average Satisfaction Index		1.76		1.78	

Comments:			
	Felt very well prepared for job	5	8
	Excellent program	8	6
	Not well prepared in some areas	1	0
	Skills not fully utilized on job	1	0
	Was given second chance to finish program	0	1
	Enjoy my job	0	1
	Finished strenuous program and graduated with honors	0	1
	Enjoy the dental hygiene field	0	1
	Wonderful staff	0	1
	Needed more perio education and experience	0	6
	Greatest strength of program was up-to-date information	0	1
	Needed more experience with Perio Pts.	0	1
	Need more experience with nitrous oxide	0	2
	Be more realistic about what is actually practiced	0	1
	More education on fearful patients	0	1
	More clinic	0	1
	More root planing and curettage experience	0	1
	Offer dental hygiene in evening	0	1
	More community dentistry	0	1

FREQUENCY OF PERFORMING VARIOUS DENTAL HYGIENE DUTIES

Frequency Index
2 = Often
1 = Occasionally
0 = Never

Duty	1989 N	1989 Index	1990 N	1990 Index
Radiology Safety Procedure/Lead Apron	22	2.00	25	2.00
Hand Scaling	22	2.00	26	1.96
Patient Education - Individual	21	2.00	26	1.96
Medical History of Patient	22	2.00	26	1.88
Polishing - All Patients	21	1.90	25	1.88
Radiographs - Interproximal Survey	21	1.76	26	1.88
Periodontal Evaluation - Probings	22	1.91	26	1.85
Instruments - Graceys	22	1.73	26	1.81
Periodontal Scaling	22	1.59	25	1.76
Radiographs - Complete Intra Oral Survey	22	1.77	26	1.73
Intra/Extra Oral Exam	21	1.62	26	1.73
Instruments - Universal Curettes	22	1.77	25	1.72
Radiographs - Perapicals	22	1.73	25	1.72
Topical Fluoride Applications	22	1.50	26	1.62
Root Planning	22	1.59	26	1.58
Ultrasonic Scaling	22	1.55	26	1.54
Periodontal Evaluation - Complete Charting	20	1.55	25	1.48
Dentition Charting	21	1.52	26	1.42
Indices - Bleeding	20	.90	24	1.33
Indices - Periodontal	21	1.24	24	1.25
Instruments - Langers	21	1.05	24	1.25
Radiology Safety Procedure/Equipment Inspection	21	1.10	24	1.17
Indices - Plaque	20	.90	23	1.17
Subgingival Irrigation	22	1.00	25	1.12
Sealants	21	.95	26	1.12
Indices - Gingival	20	1.05	23	1.09
Curettage	22	.91	26	1.08
Radiographs - Panorex	20	.70	26	1.08
Selective Polishings	20	.65	25	1.00
Nutrition Counseling	21	.90	26	.81
Impressions for Study Models	22	.59	25	.76
Blood Pressure/Pulse Screening	22	.55	26	.69
Air Polishing	21	.71	25	.64
Radiology Safety Procedure/Monitor Badge	20	.65	24	.54
Patient Education - Group	18	.17	22	.45
Suture Removal	21	.48	25	.40
Instruments - Files	21	.33	22	.36
Radiographs - Occlusal	20	.20	25	.28
Polishing Analgrams	21	.29	26	.27
Perio-Pack Removal	22	.36	24	.13
Margination (EVA)	21	.10	26	.12
Number of Tasks		41		41
Average Index of those tasks rated		1.15		1.21
- Uses sickles often		4		3
- Uses Columbias often		1		0
- Uses 204's often		1		1
- Occasionally uses CEPH Radiographs		1		1
- Often uses CEPH Radiographs		0		2
- Often uses scalers		0		1
- Often uses AFLER 5		0		1

ADEQUACY OF PREPARATION FOR VARIOUS DENTAL HYGIENE SKILLS

Adequacy Index
2 = Very well prepared
1 = Adequately prepared
0 = Inadequately prepared

Duty	1989 N	1989 Index	1990 N	1990 Index
Hand Scaling	22	1.95	24	1.92
Radiographs - Interproximal Survey	20	1.95	24	1.92
Periodontal Evaluations - Probings	22	1.95	24	1.92
Intra/Extra oral Exam	21	1.95	24	1.92
Medical History of Patient	22	1.91	24	1.92
Patient Education - Individual	21	1.90	24	1.92
Topical Fluoride Applications	21	1.90	24	1.92
Polishing - All Patients	20	1.95	23	1.91
Instrument - Graceys	22	1.91	22	1.91
Radiographs - Intra-oral Survey	21	1.90	23	1.91
Radiographs - Perapicals	21	1.86	22	1.91
Radiology Safety Procedure/Lead Apron	22	2.00	20	1.90
Instrument - Universal Curettes	22	1.91	21	1.90
Selective Polishing	19	1.84	19	1.89
Indices - Bleeding	19	1.68	19	1.89
Periodontal Evaluation - Charting	20	1.85	22	1.86
Periodontal Scaling	22	1.77	24	1.83
Subgingival Irrigation	22	1.91	22	1.82
Ultrasonic Scaling	22	1.91	24	1.79
Dentition Charting	20	1.90	24	1.79
Blood Pressure/Pulse Screening	21	1.76	19	1.79
Instrument - Langers	22	1.77	18	1.78
Radiology Safety Procedure/Badge	18	1.83	16	1.75
Indices - Periodontal	20	1.75	18	1.72
Indices - Plaque	19	1.63	18	1.72
Air Polishing	19	1.63	20	1.70
Sealants	20	1.85	22	1.68
Root Planning	22	1.77	24	1.67
Indices - Gingival	19	1.63	18	1.67
Patient Education - Group	15	1.53	19	1.63
Impressions for Study Models	21	1.33	23	1.52
Nutrition Counseling	20	1.25	24	1.42
Curettage	21	1.29	23	1.35
Radiology Safety Procedure - Equipment Inspection	19	1.42	18	1.33
Margination (EVA)	20	1.15	19	1.26
Radiographs - Panorex	18	.94	20	1.10
Instrument - Files	20	1.35	15	1.00
Polishing Analgrams	20	.95	19	1.00
Radiographs - Occlusal	18	.94	19	1.00
Suture Removal	20	.80	19	.53
Perio Pack Removal	20	.70	17	.29
Number of Tasks	41		41	
Average index of those tasks rated	1.64		1.63	

- Well prepared to use equipment
- Adequately prepared to use columbias
- Adequately prepared to use CEPH Radiograph
- Inadequately prepared to use CEPH Radiograph
- Well prepared to use sickles
- Well prepared to use 204's
- Well prepared to use scalers

Comments on how Harper can improve the quality of its program - 1989

- Quality of the program is fine; however, another instructor acting as a floater throughout all units would be nice when the assigned instructors are busy with test cases.
- Teach how to clean implants.
- Only to continue to research the latest techniques and include them in the overall education.
- I wish we would have talked more about implant management and burs.
- More teacher/student meetings to discuss students weaknesses/strengths.
- By trying to remove some of the pressure. Constantly being pushed to the limit makes it a difficult atmosphere to learn.
- Some more time dealing with the reality of private practice and ways to continue the high standards taught in school. More time on curettage, especially clinical instrumentation.
- More periodontal hands-on experience in the clinic.
- Instructors should treat every student equally and not only be nice to or do favors for the ones they are more friendly with.
- Elimination of dental materials course - this could have been incorporated into another course - at least what is pertinent for a hygienist to know, a second perio pt or individual perio pt would be more beneficial.
- Keep open lines of communication.
- Have more work done in the nutrition area in regards to oral health.
- Sense of training could be improved, more practice timewise, more realistic in cleaning, providing more material for practice.

Comments on Satisfaction/Dissatisfaction with Professional Education -- 1989

- Harper's program has strived to keep up-to-date and give current and well-rounded education to their students. In comparison to other schools and education given our program is excellent and one of the best! The perio aspect is especially helpful in private practice.
- I love where I work! At both my offices the doctors do all their own orthodontics.
- The doctor does his own perio, implants, laminates and I am responsible for their maintenance.
- Enthusiastic teachers that offered a lot of help and knowledge.
- I felt very prepared when I entered the working world.
- I feel my education at Harper was excellent. I began my career with a sound knowledge base and felt well prepared clinically.
- Dental Hygiene profession is very rewarding. I feel financially stable and am very happy I chose this profession - I really enjoy what I am doing.
- The quality of education Harper gives is great - lots of hard work.
- I enjoyed my learning experiences during the program; however, I did know of others who felt that certain instructors were not fair to all students or inconsistent from rotation to rotation.
- Very satisfied.
- Even with working at Northwestern with dental hygiene students, if I had to do it over I would go right back to Harper. I feel I learned an exceptional education from Harper.
- In some areas I feel I need to feel more confident (root planing and curettage for example).
- I feel that Harper gave a complete dental hygiene education. I feel very confident in my field.
- I feel very confident with what I have learned at Harper. I think it is a very good program.
- I am very proud to be a graduate of Harper's Dental Hygiene program.
- Dissatisfied - sometimes I feel my skills are not being used fully in the office.
- We do not do irrigation - we are working on our dentist.

Comments on How Quality of Program can be Improved -- 1990

- Would like to see more classes and hands-on with perio patients.
- Elaborate on perio aspect possibly - extend length of program.
- Get more familiar with nitrous oxide while in the program.
- Be more realistic, i.e., especially about the jobs out there - if you find the "ideal" job you are lucky.
- Not every DDS does all the indices that you are supposed to do.
- It takes a while to get things changed.
- More perio
- No improvement necessary
- I can't think of anything I would change - now that I'm out of college - it all seems fair.
- Include some nitrous oxide lectures. I don't use it that often but occasionally on fearful patients - more lectures on fearful patients.
- Good thorough program
- Possibly more clinic, more perio experience, root planing and curettage.
- More time with perio patients (root planing and curettage) in the clinic.
- Possibly to offer some DHY courses at evening hours.
- More perio program and how to introduce in general practice.
- Cover perio more and community dentistry.

APPENDIX

- Survey Instrument with Cover Letter

William Rainey Harper College
1200 West Algonquin Road
Palatine, Illinois 60067-7398
708-397-3000

Spring 1991

Dear Class of 1990,

Greetings from Harper's Dental Hygiene Program! By now you have been working in your new profession for nearly a year, and we are anxious for you to share with us your thoughts about our program and your dental hygiene education.

We are especially interested in how you found your employment, how you like your chosen profession, are you continuing your professional growth, and how well do you feel we prepared you?

Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed survey and return it in the self-addressed envelope which is provided for your convenience. Any information you supply will be kept strictly confidential among appropriate College administrators. The number on the survey enables us to take your name off the mailing list when your completed response is received. This saves us the cost of unnecessary second mailings and you the both of receiving a follow-up telephone call.

We greatly appreciate your response to this survey and especially enjoy hearing from our recent graduates.

Very truly yours,

Marianne Holt

Marianne P. Holt, R.D.H., M.A.
Coordinator
Dental Hygiene Program

jc
Enclosure

WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER COLLEGE

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

ALUMNI SURVEY

1- Check (x) your current employment situation

_____ A. Employed full time as a dental hygienist
_____ B. Employed in two part-time jobs as a dental hygienist equaling full-time employment in hours worked
_____ C. Employed as a part-time dental hygienist, by choice
_____ D. Employed as a part-time dental hygienist but would prefer full-time employment
_____ E. Employed outside the dental hygiene field by choice

Job Title_____

Why did you prefer this?_____
_____
_____

_____ F. Employed outside the dental hygiene field but would prefer working as a dental hygienist

Present Job Title_____
_____ G. Unemployed but searching for employment
_____ H. Unemployed because am enrolled in college

Major_____ College_____
_____ I. Unemployed because of being a homemaker
_____ J. Unemployed for some other reason

2- Practice setting:
_____ A. Solo Practitioner
_____ B. More than one practitioner
_____ C. Clinic type
_____ D. Other _____
_____

3- Type of Practice:
_____ A. General Practice
_____ B. Perio
_____ C. Pedo
_____ D. Other _____
_____

4- _____ A. Number of work hours/week
_____ B. Number of offices

5- In which geographic area are you employed?
_____ A. Urban
_____ B. Suburban
_____ C. Rural

6- In which location are you employed?
_____ A. North suburbs
_____ B. Northwest suburbs
_____ C. South suburbs
_____ D. Southwest suburbs
_____ E. Chicago
_____ F. Illinois/out of Chicago area
_____ G. Out of state (specify)_____
_____

(OVER)

7- Was this location your preferred choice?

_____ A. Yes
_____ B. No

8- What avenues did you use to find your employment situation(s)? Check (x) all that apply.

_____ A. Personal contact
_____ B. ADA Placement
_____ C. ADHA Placement
_____ D. Private Placement Agency
_____ E. Major City Newspaper
_____ F. Local newspaper
_____ G. Other_____

9- If you had difficulty finding employment, what type of difficulty?_____

10- During my employment search, I was looking for:

_____ A. Full-time work in one office (more than 30 hours)
_____ B. Part-time work in more than one office to equal a full-time work week.
_____ C. Part-time employment (less than 30 hours/week)
_____ D. Other - specify_____

11- How many jobs did you interview for?_____

12- How is your salary determined? Please (x) check all that apply.

_____ A. Hourly salary
_____ B. Weekly salary
_____ C. Monthly salary
_____ D. Commission
_____ E. Salary and Commission
_____ F. Bonus and 1 of the aforementioned
_____ G. Independent contracting
_____ H. Other - specify _____

13- What is your average daily salary (based on an 8-hour day?)_____

14- What is your hourly salary?_____

15- What benefits are included in your work situation? Check (x) all those that apply.

_____ A. Paid holidays - How many?_____
_____ B. Paid sick days - How many?_____
_____ C. Pension Plan
_____ D. Profit Sharing
_____ E. Paid Vacation - How much?_____
_____ F. Insurance: 1) Major medical_____
2) Life_____
3) Disability_____
4) Liability_____
5) Malpractice_____
_____ G. Other: 1) Uniform allowance_____
2) Continuing education courses paid_____
3) Paid dues for Association_____
4) Reduced fee for dental work_____
5) Bonus for production increase_____
6) Christmas bonus_____
_____ H. Other - Please explain, especially if you are an independent contractor:_____
_____ I. No benefits

16- Look over the following job duties and indicate which ones you perform and how well prepared you feel in each area. Check (x) one in each section.

Dental Hygienist Duty	Often Perform This Duty	Occasionally Perform This Duty	Never Perform This Duty	Feel Very Well Prepared in This Area	Feel Adequately Prepared in This Area	Feel Inadequately Prepared in This Area
A. Medical history of patient	___	___	___	___	___	___
B. Intra/extra oral exam	___	___	___	___	___	___
C. Blood pressure/pulse screening	___	___	___	___	___	___
D. Periodontal evaluation						
1- Probings	___	___	___	___	___	___
2- Complete Charting	___	___	___	___	___	___
E. Indices						
1- Bleeding	___	___	___	___	___	___
2- Plaque	___	___	___	___	___	___
3- Gingival	___	___	___	___	___	___
4- Periodontal	___	___	___	___	___	___
5- Other (specify)_____	___	___	___	___	___	___
F. Ultrasonic scaling	___	___	___	___	___	___
G. Hand scaling	___	___	___	___	___	___
H. Periodontal scaling	___	___	___	___	___	___
I. Instruments						
1- Graceys	___	___	___	___	___	___
2- Langers	___	___	___	___	___	___
3- Universal Curets	___	___	___	___	___	___
4- Files	___	___	___	___	___	___
5- Other (specify)_____	___	___	___	___	___	___
J. Root planning	___	___	___	___	___	___
K. Curettage	___	___	___	___	___	___
L. Polishing/all patients	___	___	___	___	___	___
M. Selective polishings	___	___	___	___	___	___
N. Air polishing	___	___	___	___	___	___
O. Subgingival irrigation	___	___	___	___	___	___
P. Patient education						
1- Individual	___	___	___	___	___	___
2- Group	___	___	___	___	___	___
Q. Topical fluoride applications	___	___	___	___	___	___
R. Nutrition counseling	___	___	___	___	___	___
S. Margination (HVA)	___	___	___	___	___	___
T. Polishing amalgams	___	___	___	___	___	___
U. Impressions for study models	___	___	___	___	___	___
V. Dentition charting	___	___	___	___	___	___
W. Sealants	___	___	___	___	___	___
X. Suture removal	___	___	___	___	___	___
Y. Perio pack removal	___	___	___	___	___	___
Z. Radiographs						
1- Interproximal survey	___	___	___	___	___	___
2- Complete intraoral survey	___	___	___	___	___	___
3- Panorex	___	___	___	___	___	___
4- Perapicals	___	___	___	___	___	___
5- Occlusal	___	___	___	___	___	___
6- Other (Specify)_____	___	___	___	___	___	___
AA. Radiology safety procedures						
1- Lead apron	___	___	___	___	___	___
2- Monitor badge	___	___	___	___	___	___
3- Equipment inspection	___	___	___	___	___	___

(Over)

17- Check (x) the degree of satisfaction with your chosen profession.

_____ A. Very satisfied
_____ B. Satisfied
_____ C. It is OK
_____ D. Dissatisfied - why?_____
_____

18- Are you working toward an advanced degree?

_____ A. Yes - Major area of study_____
College_____
_____ B. No

19- Do you anticipate that you will eventually work toward an advanced degree?

_____ A. Yes - Major area of study_____
_____ B. No - Please explain_____
_____

20- With regard to professional development, please check (x) all that apply.

_____ A. Maintained membership in IDHA/ADHA
_____ B. Attend local IDHA component meetings
_____ C. Participate in formalized continuing education presentations
_____ D. Volunteered for community projects or activities

21- To what degree were you satisfied with your professional education?

_____ A. Very satisfied
_____ B. Satisfied
_____ C. Somewhat satisfied
_____ D. Dissatisfied
_____ E. Very dissatisfied

Please comment on your satisfaction/dissatisfaction._____
_____
_____
_____

22- Please comment on how we can improve the quality of our program._____
_____
_____

Please correct your mailing address, if necessary

Name_____
Address_____
_____
City_____State_____
Zip Code_____

Please supply address of employer (optional)

Name_____
Address_____
_____
City_____State_____
Zip Code_____

THANK YOU for all your help in responding to this survey!

ERIC Clearinghouse for Junior Colleges

SEP 25 1992